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AMUSEMENTS:

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The purpose of the drams and the dramatist being wholly good, there can be no offense in pointing out that the play begins most adroitly—adroitly, yet reverently. There are a few bars of music—serving the same purpose as the voluntary before divine service—and when the curtain rises it discloses dimly, "as through a glass darkly," the illimitable waste of desert; the tired camels; the three wise men gathered from Greece, from Egypt, from Hindustan, to greet the appearance of the Star, "a focus of dazzing luster." His star proclaiming His birth. At the

beginning of the play, His birth; at the ending of the play, hosannas and rejoic-lings over the last miracles He was to a story should be put on the stage and perform before His appointed end. The lose nothing of its sublimity, its rever-





beauty, designed by F. V. Du Mond, printed in nine colors and gold. It will be rich in the kind of thing that has made the Christmas Scribner's in past years notable. The present number will contain:



ILLUSTRATED STORIES

ARTHUR COSSLETT SMITH'S NEW STORY "The Desert." Readers will remember the charming story, "The Turquoise Cup," by Mr. Smith, which was a prominent feature of last year's Christmas number, and was illustrated by Maxfield Parrish. The present story is also illustrated by Mr. Parrish, one of his pictures forming the frontispiece of the

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS'S "The Gentle Art of Bull-'ighting''
Fully illustrated from photographs taken by Mr. Davis and others, and redrawn by C. M. Relyea.

"PIPPO," BY GUY WETMORE CARRYL is a very original story of a little Italian boy and his exploits in the Blue Grotto of Capri, admirably illustrated by a dozen beautiful drawings by the Italian artist, E. Tito.

F. HOPKINSON SMITH'S STORY "Compartment No. 4," is a humorous tale of travel experience in Germany. It is fully illustrated by W. L. Jacobs.

THE BISHOP'S SILENCE
is a story by Mrs. Mary R. S. Andrews, well known to readers of Scribner's as the author of "Vive l'Empereur" and other stories in the Magazine. It is illustrated with drawings by Miss Florence Wyman. OCTAVE THANET'S STORY
"The Right of the Strongest," tells of a woman who makes an advanced experiment in social equality and of its results. Illustrated by W. L. Jacobs.

THE CUSTOM OF THE CAPTAIN" by Henry C. Rowland, is a romantic story of amusing misunderstandings, and is beautifully illustrated by Henry Hutt.

In addition to these illustrated contributions there are some letters of R. D. Blackmore, author of "Lorna Doone"; "The Alliance of Laughter," a story by E. F. Benson, author of "Dodo," and poems by Robert Louis Stevenson and Joseph Russell Taylor.

FEATURES IN COLORS

In addition to the cover in colors there will be two special color schemes of extraordinary beauty, and a frontispiece illustration in colors by Maxfield Parrish.

"CHRISTMAS AT CAFÉ SPAANDER" written and illustrated by Edward Penfield, is a delightful sketch telling of the Christmas experience of an English artist in a little Dutch town. The illustrations are notable, running through eight pages of the Magazine and reproduced in five colors.

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